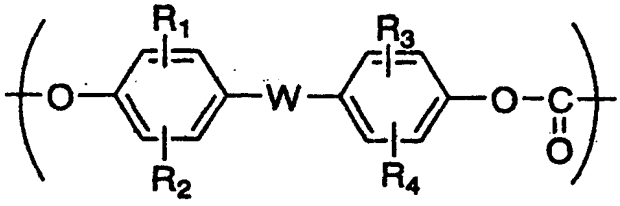
CLAIMS

1. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate characterized in that an uncrystallized low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate whose main recurrent unit is expressed by the following formula (1),

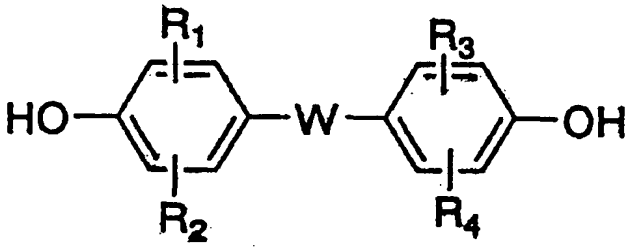


(1)

[in the formula (1), R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C_{1-10} alkyl group, a C_{7-20} aralkyl group or a C_{6-20} aryl group; W is a C_{2-10} alkylidene group, a C_{1-15} alkylene group, a C_{7-20} aryl-substituted alkylene group, a C_{3-15} cycloalkylidene group, a C_{3-15} cycloalkylene group, an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, a sulfoxide group or a sulfone group], and which has an intrinsic viscosity [η] of 0.05 to 0.38 is crystallized by bringing it into contact with a monohydroxy compound or a mixture of said compound and water.

2. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight polycarbonate described in Claim 1 characterized in that the low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate is obtained by the melt polycondensation of an aromatic dihydroxy compound and a carbonate bond-forming compound.

3. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight polycarbonate described in Claim 2 characterized in that the low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate is obtained by the melt polycondensation of an aromatic dihydroxy compound expressed by the following formula (2)



(2)

[in the formula (2), R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4 and W are same as those shown in the above-mentioned formula (1)] and a diphenyl carbonate.

4. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate described in any one of Claims 1 to 3 characterized in that 0.1 to 25 parts by weight of a crystallized polycarbonate powdery granules is added to 100 parts by weight of an uncrystallized low molecular weight polycarbonate having an intrinsic viscosity [η] of 0.05 to 0.38, they are mixed at a temperature equal to or higher than the melting point of the uncrystallized low molecular weight polycarbonate and lower than the melting point of the crystallized polycarbonate, and the mixture thus treated is brought into contact with a monohydroxy compound or a mixture of said compound and water to crystallize the mixture.

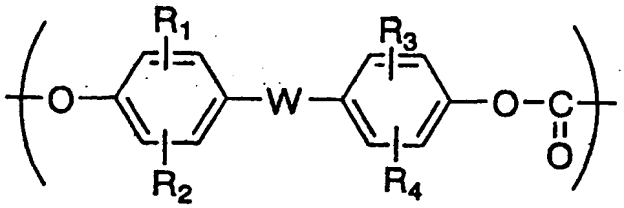
5. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate described in any one of Claims 1 to 4 characterized in that the monohydroxy compound is phenol.

6. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate described in Claim 5 characterized in that the low molecular weight polycarbonate is dipped in an aqueous solution or an aqueous dispersion containing phenol in an amount of 5 wt. % or more.

7. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate described in Claim 5 characterized in that the low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate is brought into contact with a vapor containing phenol.

8. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate characterized in that 100 parts by weight of an uncrystallized low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate whose main recurrent unit is

expressed by the following formula (1),



(1)

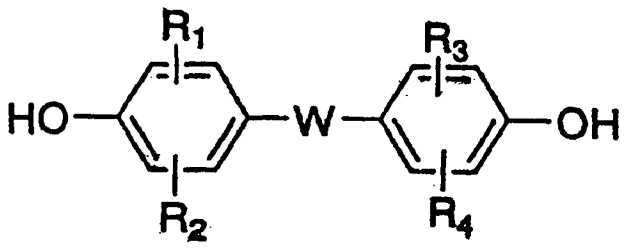
[in the formula (1), R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C_{1-10} alkyl group, a C_{7-20} aralkyl group or a C_{6-20} aryl group; W is a C_{2-10} alkylidene group, a C_{1-15} alkylene group, a C_{7-20} aryl-substituted alkylene group, a C_{3-15} cycloalkylidene group, a C_{3-15} cycloalkylene group, an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, a sulfoxide group or a sulfone group], and which has an intrinsic viscosity [η] of 0.05 to 0.38, and 0.1 to 25 parts by weight of at least one or more kinds of compounds selected from the group consisting of aromatic monohydroxy compounds, carbonic acid diester compounds and aromatic dihydroxy compounds are melt mixed, and the obtained mixture is crystallized by holding it at a temperature equal to or higher than the glass transition temperature, and lower than the melting point of the mixture.

9. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight polycarbonate described in Claim 8 characterized in that the low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate is a product obtained by melt polycondensation of an aromatic dihydroxy compound and a carbonate bond-forming compound.

10. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate described in Claim 8 or 9 characterized in that the aromatic monohydroxy compound is phenol.

11. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate described in Claim 8 or 9 characterized in that the carbonic acid diester compound is diphenyl carbonate.

12. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate described in Claim 8 or 9 characterized in that the aromatic dihydroxy compound which is melt mixed with the uncrystallized low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate is expressed by the following formula (2)



(2)

[in the formula (2), R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4 and W are same as those shown in the above-mentioned formula (1)].

13. A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate described in any one of Claims 8 to 12 characterized in that 0.1 to 25 parts by weight of powdery granules of a crystallized polycarbonate is further added to 100 parts by weight of the uncrystallized low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate.

14. A method for producing a polycarbonate resin characterized in that a crystallized product obtained by crystallizing the low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate using any method described in Claims 1 to 13 is heated at a temperature lower than the melting point of the crystallized product under reduced pressure or in an inert gas flow to convert the polycarbonate into a high polymerized state.

15. A method for producing a polycarbonate resin described in Claim 14 characterized in that a polycarbonate having an intrinsic viscosity of 0.3 to 1.7 is produced by a heat treatment in an inert gas flow.